## stor Tate

burns and trips through the layup line in

an odd number of guys you go twice to when everybody else is tired. Or if there's ting drilled, you step to the front of the line after you've just lost and everybody's getfensive rebounds," Tate says. "In practice loose balls, taking charges and getting of-"I try to lead by example by diving for

the floor or taking a charge, I think that's tra drills or a few bruises from diving on the laziest person you'll ever meet ... Exout of me, because I'm naturally probably "It's something Coach Calipari brought make it even.

of the Pennsylvania state tournament his Tate's not all heart; in the quarterfinals as a winner." a small price to pay for being remembered

Will Herndon. ed a shot by Allderdice High's athletic star, senior year at Penn Hills high, Tate block-

him of that all the time." recovers from mononucleosis. "I remind starting frontcourt while Tony Barbee is now paired with Herndon in UMass' I was so psyched," remembers Tate, who and I blocked him. I nearly had a stroke "[Herndon] turned and tried to shoot it

a degree in history this year. still up in the air. Tate is on track to receive his post-college plans, which he says are turn his full attention to graduation and After the season ends in March, Tate will

And though he knows professional

will not be forgotten. the lessons learned on the basketball court basketball is not an option, Tate promises

Shortcuts never really benefit you." I program - and there's no easy way. he's 32 and he's head coach of a Division If you work hard you can do anything -"Coach Cal has showed me two things:

leads this year's young team.

It hasn't always deen this way. Tate says

behind Harper Williams, and first in floor

in minutes played, second in rebounding

collected 12 rebounds at Xavier, 14 at Ver-

game stretch in late January in which he

seven games this season, including a three-

numbers do not reflect Tate's significance

bounds and four points per game. But the

This season, Tate has contributed 6.5 re-

"He's able to play against better players to be such a contributor to this program.

ding of his own limits is why he's been able

thusiasm, his intensity and the understan-

him that," Calipari says. "But his en-

harder than the guy I'm playing against

got to do all the little things and play

that well. In order for me to play at all, I've

ed he's right . . . I really can't play the game

I sat down and thought about it and realiz-

stink,' and that's the truth," Tate

Calipari's answer was painfully honest.

mustered the courage to ask why,

High School before coming to UMass,

chored him at the end of the UMass bench.

when first-year coach John Calipari an-

ed him in the face his sophomore year,

ween hard work and success until it smack-

he didn't understand the relationship bet-

When Tate, who starred at Penn Hills

"He told me 'you don't play hard and you

"My first reaction was 'he's crazy.' Then

"I never thought he'd play here. I told

to this year's 14-8 UMass team.

because he plays with passion."

just to keep up with him."

Tate has been UMass' high-rebounder in

mont and 12 at Temple.

Tate ranks seventh on the UMass team

Tate, a senior from Penn Hills, Pa., is a With his work ethic and with his mouth, huddles before a free throw.

ty of Massachusetts men's basketball team

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

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